

Augusta Mental Health
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Augusta Mental Health Institute (AMHI) Augusta, Maine

161 Years of State Psychiatric Care for Maine People

AMHI is a 103-bed licensed State psychiatric hospital that is Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) accredited and certified by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). It is operated through the Maine Department of Behavioral and Developmental Services (BDS). The hospital has 76 civil beds, 27 forensic beds, approximately 300 full time employees and an annual budget of \$20 million dollars.

AMHI provides inpatient services based on clinically sound hospital-based systems of care, good discharge planning, integration of treatment planning into individualized support plans, and strong community collaboration. AMHI and community providers work closely in the planning and utilization of services and resources to meet the needs of individuals after discharge.

The primary goal of AMHI is to

continue to improve quality of care through enhanced programming, increased community coordination and effective information management. AMHI works to provide the most effective modern day psychiatric care available to Maine citizens and recognizes the changing role and increased demands placed on state. Current efforts to improve care and community collaboration involve:

- A new, state-of-the-art psychiatric treatment facility to replace AMHI.
- Affiliation with Dartmouth Medical School, Department of Psychiatry.
- Implementation of an electronic medical record, "Echart".
- Comprehensive skills assessments and training programs for all hospital staff.
- Development of specialized residential living centers for AMHI patients.
- Development of a "Treatment

Mall" concept where patients from all units go to a central location for a wide variety of services.

The system of care in Maine continues to undergo significant changes in treatment and support services directed toward individuals with psychiatric disabilities who live in the community. AMHI has an integral role in providing inpatient and outpatient care that is well coordinated with community providers to ensure timely and effective discharge planning and treatment.

Inpatient services are targeted for individuals who require involuntary hospitalization; require acute, specialized and/or extended treatment; require a secure setting in which to receive treatment; or are committed under the criminal statutes for observation, care and treatment.

Outpatient services provided through AMHI are primarily for



State of Maine
Department of Behavioral
and Developmental Services

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individuals whose inability to readily access community services (i.e., dental, psychiatric, medication monitoring, etc.) interferes with their timely discharge or their maintaining community tenure. A multidisciplinary team that includes individuals and their community support workers is utilized to address treatment needs in the context of building on individuals' strengths and goals.

Currently, AMHI provides services to clients from BDS Region I

(York, Cumberland) and Region II (Kennebec, Somerset, Androscoggin, Franklin, Oxford, Sagadahoc, Waldo, Lincoln and Knox). In FY'01 approximately 500 people were admitted from those counties to AMHI and an equal number discharged. This has required AMHI and BDS regional offices to maintain ongoing, collaborative working relationships with several hospitals for emergency inpatient care and with 72 community providers for housing, in-home supports, case management, voca-

tional services, substance abuse and extensive interventions in the form of Access Community Teams (ACT). These relationships require constant refinement and adjustment to meet the ever changing demands of mental health care.

For more information about BDS visit:
www.state.me.us/bds/

In March 2002 Maine began construction on a replacement facility for AMHI on the existing hospital grounds. Construction for Riverview Psychiatric Center will be completed in the summer of 2003. The new facility will offer a state-of-the-art treatment environment for patients and staff.



Future Riverview Psychiatric Center